

00009-22 - Key Points on Impacts to Critical Infrastructure, Demonstrations Across Canada - 09 Feb 2022

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Sent on behalf of Deryck Trehearne, DG GOC

Colleagues,

New information in bold as of 17:00 EST, 09 Feb

Overview

- * Effective 15 Jan, COVID-19 vaccination became mandatory for all truckers entering Canada from the US to avoid a two-week quarantine and a negative COVID-19 test before arrival.
- * Similarly, beginning on 22 Jan, non-US essential workers who are crossing land borders must be fully vaccinated.

Key Points: (Details on Demonstrations in affected cities/regions)

Ottawa, ON:

- Minimal people on Parliament Hill and surrounding streets. OPP advising there could be slow roll protests in the suburbs of Ottawa or through small towns outside of the city (as of 10:30 EST, 09 Feb). **The number of trucks outside the hard road closures continues to fluctuate.**
 - o **Ottawa police warn protestors they could be charged for blocking downtown streets.** [Link](#)
 - o Ottawa police say children on trucks add complication to ending trucker protest. [Link](#)
 - o Towing companies on city contracts refuse to move convoy vehicles. [Link](#)
 - o Ottawa can probe foreign funding for efforts 'to undermine public safety': Mendicino. [Link](#)

Windsor, ON:

- As of 09 Feb, the CBSA border wait time site is stating that the Ambassador Bridge is temporarily closed. **The Mayor of Windsor and Chief of the Windsor Police Service held a press conference on 09 Feb, requesting provincial and federal resources.**
 - o **Border protest: Windsor requests federal assistance as blockade continues.** [Link](#)
 - o **Ambassador Bridge blockade could have 'enormous' impact on Canadian trade.** [Link](#)

Sarnia, ON:

- According to TC reporting and open source information, the OPP have reported that Highway 402 westbound is closed approximately 40km east of Sarnia. A group of protestors entered the Highway and the OPP are now closing westbound exits leading to the Blue Water Bridge. **The Blue Water Bridge remains open; wait times for Canada-bound commercial vehicles exceed four hours.**
 - o **Protesters block section of Highway 402 heading to Sarnia, Ont., bridge crossing to U.S.** [Link](#)

Fort Erie, ON:

- Planned demonstration at Peace bridge - open source information indicates the convoy may block access to the Peace bridge on 12 Feb, with potential to impact the Fort Erie-Buffalo border crossing.
 - o Niagara bridges monitoring blockade situation in Windsor. [Link](#)

Toronto, ON:

- **In response to social media posts announcing a possible demonstration, Toronto Police Service have closed streets around Queen's Park Circle to traffic.**
 - o **Toronto police close Queen's Park Circle in response to possible convoy protest.** [Link](#)

Winnipeg, MB:

- Reports indicate small number of demonstrators outside of the Manitoba legislative building.
 - o Winnipeg mayor calls truckers protest an 'unlawful occupation,' looks to police to end it. [Link](#)
 - o Demonstration slated for Polo Park on 12 Feb. [Link](#)

Coutts (Port of Entry) AB:

- RCMP reports that north and southbound lanes to the Coutts border crossing are closed due to the protesters' blockade.
 - o **Enforcement to remove Coutts border blockade to begin Wednesday afternoon: RCMP.** [Link](#)
 - o **Trucks again lining up at Alberta border crossing after highway blocked by tractors.** [Link](#)
 - o **Charges will be laid in Alberta border blockade, RCMP deputy commissioner says.** [Link](#)

Fredericton, NB:

- **The Mayor of Fredericton and Fredericton Police issued statements over social media on 09 Feb, regarding a protest convoy planned for the city's downtown and provincial legislature on 11 Feb.**
 - o **Planned protest in Fredericton raises concerns about impact on residents, businesses.** [Link](#)

Preparedness and Response efforts

Ottawa, ON :

- * The GOC will host Significant Event Information Sharing Protocol (SEISP) teleconferences with partners at TBS and PCO on an ad hoc basis for the remainder of the event.
- **On 09 Feb, an Ontario Court judge approved a request from city officials to increase several bylaw fines such as noise and idling to a maximum of \$1,000.**
- As of 08 Feb, police resources have made 23 arrests in relation to the demonstration and 1,300 tickets have been issued.
- Police resources have facilitated the departure of 6-7 trucks on 08 Feb.
- * NOTAM is in effect for airspace restrictions over Parliament Hill; extended until 14 Feb.

- Council votes to pin extra policing costs on those responsible for incurring them. [Link](#)
- * OPS has announced on social media that "Anyone attempting to bring material supports (gas, etc.) to the demonstrators could be subject to arrest. Enforcement is underway."
- * OPS additionally reports the following:
 - * Continue to avoid nonessential travel to the downtown core.
- For information on [planned traffic routes, road closures and location of other demonstrations nationally](#).
- * For updates on the [City of Ottawa road closures and traffic](#) or via social media [@Ottawa_Traffic](#) and [@Ottawa_Circule](#).

Other Jurisdictions:

- * NOTAM is in effect for airspace restrictions over Queen's Park in Toronto until 13 Feb.
- * NOTAM is in effect over Milk River, AB until 09 Feb; the NOTAM over Coutts, AB has been extended to 16 Feb.

Overall Assessment: (derived from information available on open sources):

- * The majority of the events have been peaceful.
- * Since most government employees are working remotely, the disruption to government activities is so far minor.

There is currently no known end time for the demonstrations.

JF

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